

Take a swim in one of Aruba's natural pools



Page 4

El Gaucho
ARGENTINE GRILL

For the BEST & the BIGGEST Steak
and so much more!

f i

Lobby Bar Menu



FRIDAYS

2 FOR 1 Sangria

Lunch Special EVERYDAY 11:30AM - 5PM



\$28.90
+15%SC
TAX IS INCLUDED.

Local Deal SATURDAY



15% OFF For Locals

Open daily from 11:30am - 11pm. Mondays Closed. Wilhelminastraat #80. Oranjestad, Aruba. Phone: +297 582-3677 • www.elgaucho-aruba.com

Pinchos Grill & Bar

Now in its 20th plus year, owned and run by a local family.

Open 7 days a week, as of 5:00PM

Full Service Bar

Live Music on weekends

Reservations: (297) 583 2666 or reservations@pinchosgrillaruba.com



Trump blames diversity hiring as probe into deadly midair collision begins

By **ZEKE MILLER** and **CHRIS MEGERIAN**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As the nation reeled from the deadliest American aviation disaster in more than two decades, President Donald Trump on Thursday blamed diversity initiatives for undermining air safety and questioned the actions of a U.S. Army helicopter pilot involved in the midair collision with a commercial airliner.

Sixty-seven people are believed to have died in the Wednesday evening crash, which occurred while a flight from Wichita, Kansas, was landing at Washington Reagan National Airport. As Trump spoke, the federal investigation was just beginning and first responders were still working to recover bodies from the Potomac River.

Officials have not yet to formally establish the causes of the collision, and Trump himself acknowledged that it was too soon to draw conclusions as he encouraged the country to pray for the victims. But he quickly moved to engage in speculation and political attacks, at a moment when Americans traditionally look to the presidency for comfort, assurance and facts.

"Some really bad things happened and some things happened that shouldn't



From left, Vice President JD Vance, Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy and Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth, look on as President Donald Trump speaks in the James Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House, Thursday, Jan. 30, 2025, in Washington.

have happened," the Republican president said from the White House briefing room, just over three miles or five kilometers from the scene of the disaster. Trump blamed former President Joe Biden's administration for encouraging the Federal Aviation Administration to recruit workers "who suffer severe intellectual disabilities, psychiatric problems and other mental and physical conditions under a diversity and inclusion hiring initiative." He added that the program allowed for the hiring of people with hearing and vision issues as well as paralysis, epilepsy

and "dwarfism." Trump did not share any evidence that unqualified people were being put in critical positions like air traffic control, and he acknowledged that there was as yet no indication that air traffic controllers at Reagan National Airport made any mistakes. Asked why he was blaming diversity initiatives, Trump said, "because I have common sense, and unfortunately a lot of people don't." Trump said air traffic controllers needed to be brilliant to ensure safety. "They have to be talented,

naturally talented geniuses," he said. "You can't have regular people doing their job." Trump complained specifically about Pete Buttigieg, who was Biden's transportation secretary and was a contender to challenge Trump for the White House in 2020, calling him "a disaster." "He's run it right into the ground with his diversity," Trump said, adding profanity to his description of Buttigieg. Buttigieg responded in a post on X, calling Trump's comments "despicable." "As families grieve, Trump should be leading, not ly-

ing," he added.

The plane crash was the first major disaster of Trump's new term, and his response evoked his frequent and controversial briefings on the COVID-19 pandemic. His handling of the pandemic helped sour voters on him as he failed to win reelection in 2020. After telling the families of the dead that "our hearts are shattered alongside yours" and leading a moment of silence, Trump proceeded to speculate about what had occurred. "We do not know what led to this crash but we have some very strong opinions," he said.

Trump wondered if the helicopter pilot was wearing nightvision goggles, declared that "you had a pilot problem" and that the helicopter was "going at an angle that was unbelievably bad." He questioned why the Army pilot didn't change course, saying that "you can stop a helicopter very quickly."

He also mused about the air traffic controllers, saying of the two aircraft, "for whatever reason they were at the same elevation," adding "they should have been at a different height." Even as Trump rushed to publicly ponder reasons for the crash, the National Transportation Safety Board was more circumspect as it begins examining what happened. □

Man charged with stabbing Vegas showgirls and tourists pleads guilty but mentally ill to murder



Police work at the scene where multiple people were stabbed in front of a Strip casino in Las Vegas, Oct. 6, 2022.

Associated Press

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — A man accused in a series of stabbings on the Las Vegas Strip in 2022 that left two people dead and six injured has pleaded guilty but mentally ill to murder and terrorism charges.

The victims included performers dressed as showgirls and tourists.

Yoni Barrios, 34, entered his pleas Thursday as part of a deal with prosecutors to avoid the death penalty, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported.

Barrios also pleaded guilty but mentally ill to attempted murder and battery charges. He is expected to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. Scott Coffee, his attorney, said after the

court hearing in Las Vegas that the plea agreement "recognizes what everybody in the system knew that this was the result of mental illness that caused paranoia."

Authorities say the unprovoked attack in October 2022 began when Barrios stabbed a group of performers dressed as showgirls near the Wynn Las Vegas hotel and casino, killing one of them. Barrios then ran down a sidewalk, attacking more people, according to police.

Just before the stabbings, police say Barrios had asked to take a photo with the performers. He was wearing a chef's long-sleeved white jacket, said he was a chef, and removed a knife from a suitcase, according to police. □

European court finds Italy violated the right to life of Naples residents living in toxic dump area

By NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

ROME (AP) — A European court on Thursday said Italy violated the right to life of those living in a toxic-waste polluted area around Naples, in a scathing ruling that validated a generation of residents' complaints that mafia dumping and burning of waste had led to increased rates of cancer and other ailments. The binding judgement from the European Court of Human Rights ordered the Italian government to develop a comprehensive strategy to address and monitor the contamination of the Terra dei Fuochi, or Land of Fires, an area of 90 municipalities around Caserta and Naples which is home for around 2.9 million people.

The court found that Italian authorities had known about the pollution problem, blamed on mafia clans called Camorra that control waste disposal, since 1988 but failed to address it and had not done what was necessary to protect residents' lives.

The Strasbourg-based court gave the government two years to also set up an information platform so that



Outside view March 22, 2011 of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France.

Associated Press

residents have access to data about the pollution of their lands and the verified health risks associated with living there. Residents have long complained about adverse health effects from the dumping, which poisoned underground wells used to irrigate the farmland that provides vegetables for much of Italy's center and south. Over the years, police have seques-

tered dozens of fields because their irrigation wells contained high levels of lead, arsenic and the industrial solvent tetrachloride. Authorities say the contamination is due to the Camorra's multibillion-dollar racket of disposing toxic waste, mainly from industries in Italy's wealthy north that ask no questions about where the garbage goes as long as it's taken off

their hands for a fraction of the cost of legal disposal. Over the years, Camorra turncoats revealed how the racket works, directing police to specific sites where toxic garbage was dumped, buried or burned. The court found that Italian authorities had ordered seven different parliamentary commissions of inquiry, but a chaotic public administration system had

failed to address the pollution systematically and had not done what was necessary to protect residents' lives.

"Overall, the Court found that the Italian authorities had not approached the Terra dei Fuochi problem with the diligence warranted by the seriousness of the situation," the ruling said. "The Italian State had not done all that was required of it to protect the applicants' lives." Italy's government, in its arguments to the court, had pointed to seven environmental-related convictions and numerous initiatives to investigate health problems. But the court blasted the Italian government's recourse to state secrecy and overall delays in responding to the problem. "Progress had been glacial in assessing the pollution impact when expedition had been necessary," according to a summary of the ruling, which noted a "generalised problem of coordination and attribution of responsibilities in Campania regarding decontamination" such that "it was impossible to get an overall sense of where had yet to be decontaminated." □

Panama's president says there will be no negotiation about ownership of canal

By ALMA SOLÍS

Associated Press

PANAMA CITY (AP) — Panama President José Raúl Mulino said Thursday there will be no negotiation with the United States over ownership of the Panama Canal, and he hopes U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio's upcoming visit will allow them to focus on shared interests including migration and combating drug trafficking.

Being the destination for the first overseas visit by the top U.S. diplomat would have been big for Panama in any case, but Rubio comes as the emissary of U.S. President Donald Trump, who has repeatedly

suggested the U.S. retake the Panama Canal.

On the day of his inauguration, Trump claimed that U.S. ships were being "severely overcharged and not treated fairly in any way, shape or form," noting that "above all, China is operating the Panama Canal." He had previously said the U.S. could demand the canal be returned.

Mulino tried to downplay the tension at his weekly press conference Thursday. He spoke of wanting to clarify confusion about China's role in the canal a Hong Kong consortium manages ports at both ends, but Panama controls the canal — and blamed a

predecessor for the long-term concession made for control of the ports.

"It's impossible, I can't negotiate," Mulino said when asked about returning the canal to U.S. control. "That is done. The canal belongs to Panama."

The United States built the canal in the early 1900s as it looked for ways to facilitate the transit of commercial and military vessels between its coasts. Washington relinquished control of the waterway to Panama on Dec. 31, 1999, under a treaty signed in 1977 by President Jimmy Carter.

"The only thing that I want is to clear all the garbage from the path, clean the

table and be able to speak with the United States and very frankly" about issues including immigration, security and the fight against

drug trafficking, Mulino said.

Rubio is scheduled to meet with Mulino Sunday and visit the canal. □



A cargo ship traverses the Gatún Locks of the Panama Canal in Colon, Panama, Sept. 2, 2024.

Associated Press



(Oranjestad)—Amongst the countless beaches surrounding the island that are well-known and frequently visited, there are an additional two “hidden” natural pools that are situated in the northern coast of the island, two ideal stops in your tour itinerary.

Conchi (Natural Pool)

For many years, Conchi was the only natural pool that we had on the island. Located in the Arikok National Park, near Boca Keto and the Daimari Ranch, Conchi—also known “Cura di Turtuga (Turtle’s Cove) or just Natural Pool—is reachable with any 4x4 vehicle or by foot if you’re up for a long hike. However, since it is part of the National Park, you must first get permission from park management to enter. You would have to purchase a day pass, and receive a wristband as proof of payment. Once

you’ve completed that, you are set!

If you decide to hike from the entrance of the Arikok National Park, this is also possible: do bring plenty of protective clothing and enough water and food—it could take you up to three hours to hike there!

However, when you eventually do get there, you will be greeted with crystal blue water surrounded by a natural rock formation that protects you from the wild waves on the other side. Though the pool is located on the northern side of the island (where the sea is largely rough and largely no suitable for swimming), the pool itself is very calm. It’s also relatively deep, and you can climb up the rocks and jump in!

Cave Pool

This relatively new pool ap-

Visit the island’s hidden natural pools

peared just a few years ago, when a part of the dried up coral floor broke off and created a partition between the ocean and what is now the natural pool that is hidden there. Because it’s still so new, there is no official name for it, but most people just call it the cave pool.

Just like the Conchi, the new natural pool is situated on the northern coast of Aruba. However, this pool is much easier to reach with any type of vehicle, and there is no hiking needed. This spot has also become a regular stop for touring visitors.

When you get there, maybe you won’t be able to spot the pool immediately, because you will probably notice the moon-shaped lagoon where wild northern waves crash into each other. Sounds scary, but if you look down on your right, you’ll see a calm, crystal blue little pool in the corner. To get there, you have to climb down some stairs. Be careful when climbing down and follow the in-

structions of your tour guide if you have one.

And just like Conchi, this pool also has a jumping

spot, and a rope to climb back up the boulder. □

Picture of cave pool is credited to RockaBeach Tours

A quick snack for the road: Learn how to make the Aruban Pastechi!



(Oranjestad)—If you ever been to Aruba before, you probably heard of (and even tried) the Aruban Pastechi. Beloved by young and old, this tasty treat is a staple for party snacks, a quick lunch or even breakfast!

Here’s how to make the Pastechi dough.

Ingredients:

4 cups of wheat flour
1 tbsp baking powder (if using self-rising flour, omit baking powder)
1 tsp salt
1 tbsp sugar
0.5 cup of melted butter
1 cup water
1 egg

Directions:

Sift your flour into a bowl and add all the dry ingredients before giving it a quick mix. Next add the butter, water and egg and mix until thoroughly combined. At this point, your dough will start to get sticky; time for an arm workout. Knead your dough into the bowl you are using or on a clean surface with some flour lightly dusted until its surface is smooth. You’ll know your dough is ready when it doesn’t stick to your hands or the surface on which you’re kneading it. Let your dough rest covered for 15-20 minutes.

After resting, divide your dough into approximately 100 gram balls and roll it flat with a rolling pin. The

thickness of the pastechi depends on your taste, but the average thinness would be around ¼ inch or so.

Filling for the pastechis varies according to your taste. The easiest and most common filling you’ll find in Aruba is a simple cheese filling. For this, we usually use shredded Gouda, but feel free to use any cheese that melts well when frying the pastry.

Place the filling on your rolled out piece of dough, fold it in half and pinch the sides shut with a fork. If you have a folding tool, feel free to use it for this process. Your pastechi is ready for the fryer!

If you want to store some pastechis for later use, you can freeze them. A good tip is to place a piece of wax paper in between each pastechi if you are to store them on top of one another. This way the pastechis don’t stick to each other when defrosting.

Here in Aruba we enjoy pastechi at any time of the day, but it has become almost tradition to eat pastechis for breakfast on the way to work. Many roadside snack trucks sell pastechi from early morning to noon, and offer a variety of fillings like cheese; ham and cheese; ground beef and pulled chicken to name a few. □

- 62 units
- 1, 2 & 3 br
- Ocean Views
- High Speed Internet
- Top-of-the Line Finishes
- Security & Valet Parking
- Roof top pool overlooking the Caribbean
- Fitness Center

CASA PLAYA

RESIDENCES ARUBA

**OPENING
DECEMBER 2025**

A PROJECT BY

In the best block of a revitalized Oranjestad

www.casaplayaruba.com +297-565-4221 +297-594-6395
info@casaplayaruba.com info@bluearubarealty.com

**where
timeless
charm
MEETS
MODERN
LIVING**

Weekly Free Slot or Table Play for all qualified Club members.

50/30
Friday!

We're giving away
\$50 Free Slot Play
to lucky slot and table
game players **every**
30 minutes from
7pm to Midnight!

THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO

Auntie Anne's Pretzels | Aruba Aloe | Baskin-Robbins | M8 Botique
Juan Valdez Café | Hungry Piranha - Pizza, Wings & More
The Brownstone Ribs and Seafood | Moments & Memories Jewelry
Fusion - Piano & Wine Bar | Shalom Body & Soul Spa | Treasure Cove
Magnet Perfume Jewelry & Cosmetics | The Lazy Lizard | The Market
Shalom Hair & Nails Bar | Twist of Flavors | Dunkin Donuts
Coming Soon: El Patio Tacos & Tequila

Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 3am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 | 588.9000 | casinoalhambra.com

Play Responsibly. Visit www.gamblersanonymous.org if you or someone you know has a gambling problem.



A brief history of the California Light House

(Oranjestad)—At the furthest western point of the island, there lies the tallest structure on the island: The California Light House. Standing on top of a limestone cliff, this lighthouse oversees the entire island, offering one of few best views of the island and the surrounding sea. It is also one of the few monuments that hold a rich history.

The lighthouse was constructed in between 1914-1916, and its first keeper was a young trained lighthouse keeper from Curacao names Jacob Jacobs. Mr. Frederico Fingal was the last man to have occupied this position until 1962. Though his son, Mr. Romulo Fingal did not continue in his father's footsteps, he does have a special connection to the lighthouse. He sat down with our reporter and shared a bit of its history.

As Mr. Fingal explains, "In 1915, cargo donkeys were hired from Figaroa di Noord to help build the Lighthouse at Westpunt. The donkeys had to walk along the beach all the way to Westpunt carrying the cargo, poles, cement, and all these things. At that time, it was a difficult task until Aruba got its first truck. These things reflect how people could have accomplished this tremendous job with so little." Mr. Fingal said, "At that time, it wasn't a place for people to work. It was very challenging because it was full of goats and donkeys, and it was very isolated. There were no hotels or roads to get there. There was only a donkey trail. Those were the only means of trans-

portation."

Mr. Fingal continues, "In 1939, I was born in the lighthouse, and my father was the last lighthouse keeper until he retired in 1962. After that, they removed the power cables all the way to the top. According to the story, we couldn't have the light ourselves because they dismantled it, and after many years, I heard that it is in a train museum in San Nicolas, where we found this very special lens that, when the light shines through it, it reaches 30 kilometers out to sea." Mr. Fingal told our reporter.

The lighthouse has a long and very interesting history. The reason why the lighthouse was built, according

to Mr. Fingal, dates back to the day when the cargo ship S.S. California sank because of the lack of light. In 1913, Aruba made a request to Curacao to build a Lighthouse at Westpunt, and the governor of Curacao responded to Aruba to come back in 1915 with a well-detailed plan. "During the First World War from 1914 to 1918, they had to wait for the light to be transported to Aruba because it was manufactured in France. At that time, there was no electricity, and the light was very interesting because it rotated with a kerosene lamp that planes used; clean kerosene," Mr. Fingal said.

Mr. Fingal discovered something very interesting about

the lighthouse after much research was documented in his book 'History of the Lighthouse at Westpunt.' He found many details: "I found out that the height of the lighthouse was due to the absence of electricity. There was also the presence of coral. There is a long steel cable from where the light is, and under the light, at the highest point, there is a hanging weight, a sort of pendulum that swings like that, with a weight that measures about 1 meter by 30 centimeters wide, which is a block of solid iron attached to a cable. When you release it upwards, it comes down, and the weight that comes down pulls it up, gradually. And while it comes down, the same weight that is de-



scending causes many small wheels to turn in the opposite direction. The Lighthouse rotates from 6 pm in the evening, when the sun sets, until 6 am in the morning. During the entire night, the light shines on the lantern, it goes down 24 meters, and the Lighthouse is 30 meters high. It is designed not to collapse," Mr. Fingal explains.

Mr. Fingal further explains that in one night, the lighthouse rotates 4,320 times and consumes one gallon of kerosene for the whole operation. "At that time, the kerosene was supplied from the Lago refinery. Every day it was brought down, and to start the light again, they had to lift the weight up, so our job as children was to crank it and raise the weight back up in the evening when the light stuck, they would take it down again, and the light stayed down. That's how it worked for a very long time," Mr. Fingal explains.

Thanks to the Monument Fund Aruba, which worked hard and is currently in charge of the Lighthouse, Mr. Fingal is very happy with its preservation, along with all the renovations that have taken place. He hopes that the story of the lighthouse will continue to live on for future generations. □





HEALTH

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel.524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:
St. Cruz: Tel.585 8028
San Nicolas:
Seroe Preto:Tel.584 4833

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

Aruba Food Bank
Tel. 588 0002
FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989
Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400
Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888
Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118

Like us on Facebook



ARUBA TODAY NEWS

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

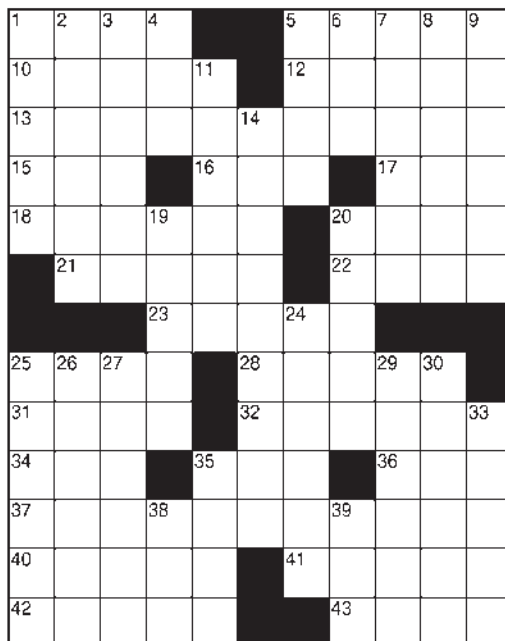
ACROSS

- 1 Shocked sound
- 5 A googol has 100
- 10 Nebraska city
- 12 Deal maker
- 13 Available income
- 15 Braying beast
- 16 Basic soldiers
- 17 The Monkees' "— Believer"
- 18 Casino worker
- 20 Snare
- 21 Swindler's aide
- 22 Coop group
- 23 Oversight
- 25 Play group
- 28 — the hills
- 31 Musical work
- 32 Drove dangerously
- 34 Silent assent
- 35 Golf peg
- 36 Egg cells
- 37 Hippies' slogan
- 40 Writer Stanley
- 41 Stock unit

- 42 One-sided wins
- 43 Downhill glider

DOWN

- 1 Spoil
- 2 Entertains
- 3 Obeys a doctor's order
- 4 Greek con-sonant
- 5 Hits with a ray gun
- 6 Swelled head
- 7 Do electrical work
- 8 Kind of band
- 9 Gown features
- 11 Lansbury of Broadway
- 14 Gender-affirming slogan
- 19 Buoyant tunes
- 20 Bara of film
- 24 Naps
- 25 Talk things over
- 26 Twin of Artemis
- 27 Number puzzle
- 29 Oath
- 30 Harsh
- 33 Was bold
- 35 Saw-bucks
- 38 Humor
- 39 Surprised sounds



1-30

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

1-30

CRYPTOQUOTE

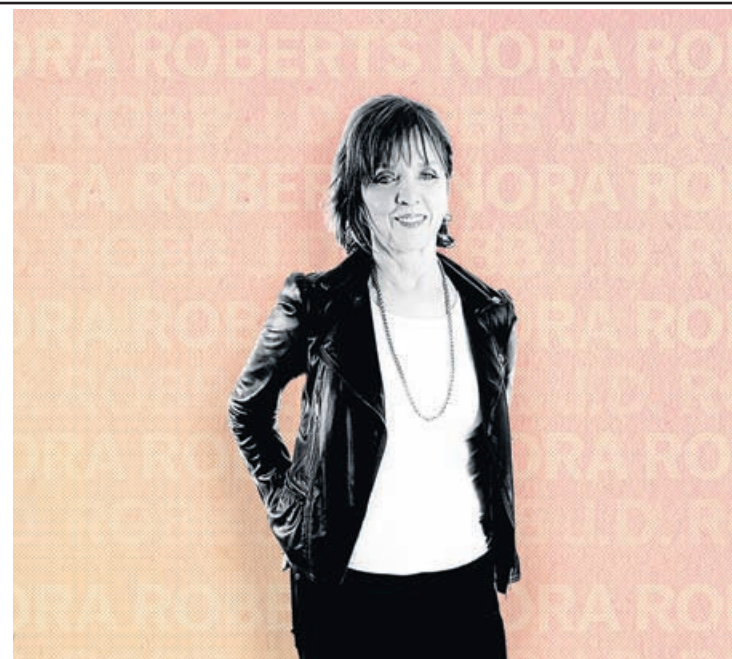
M P W C Q X C P A Y A I T Y A

G Q V E O K C P W V C P A L A A O Q V B

S A C M A A V P T X C W V E B Z A X C ?

— W A X F P K O Z X

Cryptoquote: RIVERS KNOW THIS:
THERE IS NO HURRY. WE SHALL GET THERE
SOME DAY. — A.A. MILNE



(Associated Press Illustration / Nat Castaneda)

Nora Roberts is happily defying genres, 250 books in

By SOPHIA ROSENBAUM

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Nora Roberts is so prolific she had to take up a pen name so her publisher could release more books by her each year.

"I'm a fast writer," Roberts told The Associated Press in a rare interview. She typically releases four books a year, and has for more than four decades.

It's not just about her speed. It's her range, too. She's written more than 250 books, from romantic one-offs and fantasy-themed trilogies to a police procedural series she's been writing for three decades. The 60th book of the "In Death" series, "Bonded in Death", is being released in February.

Roberts has left her mark on the literary world, and she has no plans to stop anytime soon. She talked about the art of writing, why she won't have the main characters in her "In Death" series have kids, and her thoughts on the romance genre including why she doesn't see herself as part of it anymore.

This interview has been edited for clarity and length.

AP: You write under two different names Nora Roberts and J.D. Robb. Why?

Roberts: I'm a fast writer.

I didn't like the idea of taking a pseudonym until my agent said to me one day, 'Nora, there's Pepsi, there's Diet Pepsi, and there's caffeine-free Pepsi.' And that hit home. I drink Diet Pepsi and I've realized it's marketing and I could be two brands.

So I said I would do that if I could write something completely different.

AP: You're coming out with your 60th book in the "In Death" series. You've been writing two books per year for the series since 1995. What is your vision for the series at this point?

Roberts: I can't imagine ending it and I still have ideas for where they're going next. They're not just books about murders. They're about interaction and relationships and the evolution of characters.

AP: Do you have an ending in mind, or was there an ending that you had in mind at one point that you've gone past?

Roberts: I never had an endpoint. It just sort of happened that I got to 60 books. I'm very invested in these characters. So I like to tell their stories. □

PGA Tour contemplates announcing fines as part of study into slow play

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP)

— The PGA Tour is taking a hard look at whether to allow rangefinders and publicize violations as part of a comprehensive study on pace of play and other enhancements to the game that have come out of a survey of 50,000 golf fans.

Tour officials were purposely short on specifics Wednesday during a meeting with reporters on the "Fan Forward" initiative that Commissioner Jay Monahan announced a year ago. He is expected to go into greater detail at The Players Championship in March.

But the preview session at Pebble Beach supported Monahan's message late last year that "everything is on the table" as the PGA Tour embarks on a series of changes.

"I think as we roll the clock forward three, five, 10 years, we're going to look back at 2025 as an inflection point in the evolution of the tour," said Andy Weitz, the tour's chief marketing and communications officer.

He said part of that was capital growth from the



Harris English celebrates after winning the Farmers Insurance Open golf tournament at Torrey Pines Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025, in San Diego.

Associated Press

investment of Strategic Sports Group, which put \$1.5 billion into PGA Tour Enterprise with the potential to double the amount. Fenway Sports Group, a big part of SSG, has Theo Epstein as a senior advisor. Epstein, former general manager of the Boston Red Sox and Chicago Cubs, worked with Major League Baseball on recent changes that include a pitch clock and

larger bases to encourage more stealing.

The shot clock has been mentioned to help improve pace of play on tour, and the topic has gained momentum in recent weeks when the final round of threesomes has taken about 5 1/2 hours to finish. Weitz said the tour formed a study group a month ago with three players Sam Burns, Jhonattan Vegas

and Adam Schenk who likely would pass their findings to the Players Advisory Council, a 16-member panel that has been more involved than ever. Rangefinders or distance measuring devices currently are allowed only at the PGA Championship. The tour is trying to find a spot in the schedule for a test run to see if it helps speed play by getting play-

ers the yardages quicker. Gary Young, the senior vice president of rules and competition, said the sample tests could be at signature events that have smaller fields, or perhaps a tournament like the Zurich Classic that features team competition.

The potential of disclosing violations would be a break from PGA Tour tradition. The tour is different from most other sports leagues in that it has never disclosed fines, disciplinary action or violations that relate to pace of play.

The tour long felt that would be little more than a distraction.

What it heard from fans was a need for more transparency.

"I think there's a real moment now for that all to be looked at," PGA Tour President Tyler Dennis said.

Weitz said the discussion has met with little resistance from players. He had breakfast Wednesday morning with Max Homa and said Homa told him, "We want to hold each other accountable, and we want to play in a way that is the best version of the fan experience." □

Nashville bids for WNBA franchise with Candace Parker and Peyton Manning among investors

By TERESA M. WALKER

AP Sports Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)

— The chairman of the NHL's Nashville Predators and his wife want to bring the WNBA to Music City and have teamed up with a star-filled investor group including Candace Parker, Pro Football Hall of Fame quarterback Peyton Manning and entertainers Tim McGraw and Faith Hill.

The group led by Bill Haslam, a former Tennessee governor, submitted its bid to the WNBA on Thursday for a franchise that would start playing in 2028. The team also would be named the Tennessee Summitt in honor of the late Pat Summitt. Haslam said they see

how women's professional sports is emerging worldwide with a "void"

"We believe a WNBA team, based in Nashville, could serve as a beacon for girls and women, young and old, across Tennessee, while also creating more opportunities for sports fans as our community continues to grow," Haslam said. The Nashville bid also features a plan to build a practice facility for the WNBA team that also would be used for youth basketball.

"Tennessee is the DNA of everything women's basketball stands for," Parker said in a statement. "I'm excited to be a part of the group working to bring a WNBA team to the state

and honor Coach Summitt's legacy."

Parker is a three-time WNBA champion and helped Summitt win two of her eight national championships at the University of Tennessee. Summitt died in 2016 as the winningest Division I coach four years after retiring following her diagnosis of early onset dementia, Alzheimer's type.

A Tennessee native, Summitt coached the Lady Vols for 38 years and had a career record of 1,098-208 in 38 seasons, plus 18 NCAA Final Four appearances. Her son, Tyler, noted his mother was a huge advocate for women's sports and women in leadership. "I know she would be

proud and honored to be included in the expansion of women's professional basketball into Tennessee,"

Summitt said.

The team would play at Bridgestone Arena, home to the NHL's Predators. □



In this Jan. 28, 2013, file photo, former Tennessee women's basketball coach Pat Summitt smiles as a banner is raised in her honor before the team's NCAA college basketball game against Notre Dame in Knoxville, Tenn.

Associated Press



QUALITY APARTMENTS AND SUITES



www.arubaqualityapartments.com

All Fully Furnished w/Kitchen, Airco, Cable Tv, FREE WIFI (in and outside rooms).
Swimming Pool, Gym, Library, Laundry Room & BBQ Sets.
Less than 1 mile from Eagle Beach & 2 Large Supermarkets.

FEEL FREE TO CONTACT OR VISIT US.
Mon-Fri: 8am - 7pm. Sat & Sun: 9am - 5pm. Worldwide calls: (297)-582-0697

+1 866 470 1411
Schotlandstraat 70, Oranjestad, Aruba

Email: info@arubaqualityapartments.com | Whatsapp: (297) 593 9647
Website: www.arubaqualityapartments.com

The Chiefs will seek another Super Bowl sweep in a title game rematch against the Eagles

By **JOSH DUBOW**
AP Pro Football Writer

Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs keep finding themselves on one side of a Super Bowl rematch.

A year after beating the San Francisco 49ers for the second time in five seasons in the NFL's championship game, Mahomes and the Chiefs will square off against the Philadelphia Eagles for the second Super Bowl in the past three seasons.

Kansas City won the first meeting 38-35 in Glendale, Arizona, and will try to pull off another Super Bowl sweep on Feb. 9 in New Orleans.

"This is a great football team (that) we're playing," Mahomes said. "They're great on offense, they're great on defense and special teams. We played them in a close Super Bowl a couple years ago, but they've added players and got even better, so it'll take our best football to win."

More than 40 players who participated in that nail-biter two years ago are projected to be on the field next week including stars



Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes (15) holds the Vince Lombardi Trophy while talking to Terry Bradshaw following the NFL Super Bowl 57 football game against the Philadelphia Eagles, Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023, in Glendale, Ariz.

Associated Press

like Mahomes, Travis Kelce and Chris Jones for Kansas City and Jalen Hurts, Lane Johnson and A.J. Brown for Philadelphia.

Many played big roles in the last Super Bowl meeting.

Hurts rushed for three TDs and threw a 45-yard scoring strike to Brown, while Mahomes threw three TD

passes, including one to Kelce. Nick Bolton returned a fumble for a touchdown and Harrison Butker kicked the game-winning field goal with 8 seconds left.

There have only been nine Super Bowl rematches in the previous 58 games, with just four happening in a five-year span before this rematch. The winners

of those three rematches were the teams that won the first meeting.

Here's a look at the other times there was a Super Bowl rematch within five seasons of the first meeting:

Chiefs vs. 49ers

Mahomes rallied Kansas City from a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter for a 31-20 win in Super Bowl 54,

with his biggest play being a 44-yard pass on third-and-15 to Tyreek Hill that sparked the comeback.

The 49ers kept it even closer last season in a back-and-forth game that featured three go-ahead scoring drives led by Brock Purdy in the fourth quarter or overtime. But it wasn't enough to topple Mahomes.

Mahomes engineered two late game-tying field goal drives in regulation. He then took advantage of San Francisco coach Kyle Shanahan's decision to start overtime with the ball by responding to a field goal by the Niners with a walk-off 3-yard TD pass to Mecole Hardman for Kansas City's third title in this current run.

Giants vs. Patriots

Eli Manning and the Giants spoiled New England's bid for a perfect season in 2007 and then pulled off the upset again four years later. The Patriots came into Super Bowl 42 with an 18-0 record and were on the brink of matching the perfect season of the 1972 Dolphins when Tom Brady threw a 6-yard TD pass to Randy Moss to make it 14-10 with 2:42 to go. □



Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Nick Bolton, right, breaks up a pass intended for Buffalo Bills tight end Dalton Kincaid during the first half of the AFC Championship NFL football game, Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025, in Kansas City, Mo.

Associated Press

Ravens fans urged to donate for Kincaid after Bills fan organized effort for Andrews

By The Associated Press

Baltimore Ravens fans are being urged to donate to a group supported by Buffalo Bills tight end Dalton Kincaid, who had a pass go through his arms late in last week-end's playoff loss to the Kansas City Chiefs. This effort comes after a Bills fan started a fundraiser for a charitable cause supported by Ravens tight end Mark Andrews, whose dropped 2-point conversion helped seal Buffalo's win over Baltimore in the divisional round.

According to a GoFundMe page Wednesday night, over \$20,000 had been raised

for Summit Educational Resources. The Summit Center, located in western New York, provides programs to children and adults with developmental, social and behavioral challenges. Last April, Kincaid visited with students and staff at Summit Academy.

According to the page, the fundraiser was organized by Will Funk-Heiser of Catonsville, Maryland. "We want Ravens flock to donate to Summit Center for autism, the charity Dalton works with and try and return the favor Bills mafia did for us and Mark Andrews," the page said. □